

12 shallow channels, wherein the angle at which the tapered portion extends with respect  
13 to the remaining portion of the lateral surface is greater than 0° and less than 15°.

Please cancel claims 3 and 5.

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

1 8. (Twice Amended) A paving surface for the management of rainwater,  
2 floodwater or liquid spillage having a permeable layer on a supporting substrate layer,  
3 which supporting substrate layer is permeable to liquid and is of particulate material  
4 providing interstitial cavities for receiving rainwater, floodwater or spillage draining  
5 through the permeable layer, wherein the permeable layer is constructed at least  
6 partially by the close-fitting without joint filling of a plurality of paving blocks,  
7 wherein said paving blocks have an upper surface, a lower surface and lateral surfaces  
8 extending between the upper and lower surfaces and contacting in use at least apart of  
9 a lateral surface of at least one adjacent paving block, a substantial portion of at least  
10 two lateral surfaces of the paving block extending to the upper surface being tapered  
11 along the entirety of the edge between the upper surface and the lateral surface,  
12 wherein at least one of the lateral surfaces has a shallow channel wider than it is deep  
13 extending from the upper surface to the lower surface and so positioned as to form,  
14 when the block is placed in abutting contact with another block in use thereof,  
15 upwardly open gullies formed by two facing tapered lateral surface portions, and  
16 narrow slot-like drainage passages formed by two facing shallow channels, wherein  
17 the angle at which the tapered portion extends with respect to the remaining portion of  
18 the lateral surface is greater than 0° and less than 15°.

Please cancel claim 10.

Please add new claims 17-19 as follows:

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1            17.    (New) A paving block according to Claim 1, wherein the upper  
2            surface of the block has a beveled edge portion around its periphery at its common  
3            edge with said tapered portion of said lateral surface, said beveled edge portion being  
4            inclined with respect to said lateral surface at a greater angle than said tapered portion  
5            thereof.

1            18.    (New) A paving block according to Claim 17, wherein said beveled  
2            edge portion is inclined at an angle between 30° and 40° with respect to said upper  
3            surface.

1            19.    (New) A paving block according to Claim 17, wherein a shoulder  
2            having a surface generally parallel to said upper surface separates said tapered surface  
3            portion from said beveled edge portion.

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